

Classic Poetry Series

Robert Hedin
- poems -

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Gunnar Robert Hedin (born February 2, 1966) is a Swedish handball player who competed in the 1992 Summer Olympics and in the 1996 Summer Olympics.

He was born in Ystad.

In 1992 he was a member of the Swedish handball team which won the silver medal. He played two matches and scored ten goals.

Four years later he was part of the Swedish team which won the silver medal again. He played six matches and scored 16 goals.

In 2008 he became coach of the Norwegian national handball team.

The Old Liberators

Of all the people in the mornings at the mall,
It's the old liberators I like best,
Those veterans of the Bulge, Anzio, or Monte Cassino
I see lost in Automotive or back in Home Repair,
Bored among the paints and power tools.
Or the really old ones, the ones who are going fast,
Who keep dozing off in the little orchards
Of shade under the distant skylights.
All around, from one bright rack to another,
Their wives stride big as generals,
Their handbags bulging like ripe fruit.
They are almost all gone now,
And with them they are taking the flak
And fire storms, the names of the old bombing runs.
Each day a little more of their memory goes out,
Darkens the way a house darkens,
Its rooms quietly filling with evening,
Until nothing but the wind lifts the lace curtains,
The wind bearing through the empty rooms
The rich far off scent of gardens
Where just now, this morning,
Light is falling on the wild philodendrons.

Robert Hedin